A REMONSTRANCE OF THE DIRECTORS OF THE NETHERLANDS

East India Company, presented to the *Lords States Generall* of the vnited Provinces, in defence of the said Companie, touching the bloudy proceedings against the *English* Merchants, executed at *Amboyna*.

TOGETHER,

With the Acts of the Processe, against the sayd ENGLISH.

AND

The Reply of the English East India *Company, to the said Remonstrance and Defence.*

Published by Authority.

Printed at *London* by *Iohn Dawson*, for the *East India* Company, 1632.

¶ *To the Reader.*

Gentle Reader,

THe Remonstrance *of the* Netherlands East India *Company, hereafter in the first place following, was by the same Company presented to the* Lord States Generall, *of the united Provinces: in* November, Anno 1624. *for Answere of the Relation of the* English East India *Company, touching the unjust, cruell, and barbarous proceeding against the* English *at* Amboyna, *and for justification of that infamous processe, the Coppie of which Remonstrance being imparted to the sayd* English *Company, they forth-with writ the subsequent Reply, and sent the same to be presented to the said* Lords States Generall, *for a counter-poyson against the said Remonstrance: At that time the* English *Company intended not to haue publisht it in Print, thereby to make so many Iudges of the cause as now they must, but upon faire hope then given them out of the* Netherlands *trusted (by the justice of the* Lords States Generall, *joyned with that of their owne Soveraigne) to obtaine an issue of this cause, according to the merits thereof. But the Ambassadour of the said* Lords States *being here in* England, *in* Iune 1625. *and moved by his Majestie for satisfaction for the lives of his Subjects, that were so treache-*

rously butchered by theirs at Amboyna, *as also for restitution of their goods so made forfeit, and recompence for the damage of the* English *Company, by this and other actions, vsed such excuse and cullor (as it seemeth out of the ground of this Remonstrance: (which after many provisionall disputes finally concludeth for delay of tryall) that at the last, in* September *the same yeare, they obtained of his Majestie a respit of* 18. *moneths for the calling home of the Governour* Harman van Speult, *and the rest of the Iudges in the sayd bloudy processe, from out of the* Indies, *to answere the matter here themselues, and for satisfaction of all the other Complaints of the* English *Company. To whom although this respit was irkesome, having already borne so long delay, in a cause of such impatient nature; as also having a suspition of the sinister intent of the* Dutch *Companie: in this new respit; neverthelesse considering, that this was a favour craved by the said* Lords States *in their first Ambassage to his Majestie, and their very congratulation of his happy successe to his rightfull Crownes, they held it their duty to conforme themselues to his Majesties grace herein. As also the same* English *Company having confidence in the sincere dealing of the* Lords States Generall, *whose Letter of the* 31. *of* December. 1624. *for calling home of the sayd bloudy* Governour *and others, was committed to their conveyance, and by them sent into the* Indies, *hoped that their remedy though slow and long, would yet at last be sure, and serious. and so they put on a new patience, and expectation of some issue of this likely course. But having waited out this respit, which expired, some years now past, they finde all things fall out contrary to their hope so grounded vpon the* Lords States *promise and Letter, but altogether veri-*

fying their suspition of the drift of the Netherlands *Company beforementioned. For the said Letter of the* Lords States *being by the* English President *at* Iacatra, *safely delivered to* Carpentier, Governour Generall *of the* Dutch, *in the* Indies, *he (when* Harman van Speult *the late* Governour *of* Amboyna, *and head of the bloudy treachery against the* English *there) arrived at* Iacatra) *received him with great honour, yea with triumph, and instead of sending him for* Europe, *to answere the complaints of the* English, *according to the direction and commandments of the* Lords States, *by their sayd Letter; made him cheife Commander of a fleete of ships, sent from thence to* Surat, *and other Northerne parts of the* Indies. *The* English *President and Councell at* Iacatra, *in vaine protesting here-against, and vrging his remißion to* Europe, *in consequence of the Letter of the* Lords States *aforesayd. Neither haue the Officers of the sayd* Netherlands *Company in the* Indies, *in all that respit of* 18 *moneths, nor in all the time since, made any restitution or reparation to the* English *as was promised and pretended, nor any preparation thereunto, but rather haue added new grievances. So that it now plainely appeareth, that the sayd* Netherlands East India *Company, in their earnest suite to the* Lords States, *to procure his Majestie to giue respit for the due tryall of the cause of* Amboyna, *inserted in the latter end of this ensuing Remonstrance; intended nothing lesse then such a true tryall, but a cooling and blunting of the edge and zeale of the* English *Company, in pursuing of their due remedies, hoping (as it is in the fable of him, that undertooke to teach the Asse to speake) that in long delay and respit of time something might happen, vtterly to elude and frustrate the reall performance: In the meane*

 time

time, besides the goods of the English *that they detaine, they enioy the whole trade of the* Mulluccoes, Banda; *and* Amboyna; *the true, though wretched motive of their abhominable processe, against the Innocents; and haue raised the Nutmegs, Maces, Cloues, (being by this meanes solely in their owne hands) to more then double the price of that they were at, in these parts, when the* English *had their share in them. Whereby it appeareth how sincerely this following* Remonstrance *slighteth this matter as a poore end, though it so much enrich the* Dutch *Company; as likewise how much, not onely the whole Realme of* ENGLAND, *but even all the Kingdomes and Common wealths in* Europe, *that are thus serued with those Spices at such high rates, are interessed in this cause. And yet besides all the premises, the* English *Company finde another and more proper cause of their recourse to the presse at this present, otherwise for all the rest they could perhaps attend other remedies. But they finde that in this Interim, of the cause and motives whereof the world could take no notice, many not onely of the* Dutch, *but* English *also, begin to conceiue worse of the* English *cause: presuming that if it had beene such as the discourses formerly published in this argument imported, they thinke certainely, ere this, to haue heard of some exemplary punishment vpon so execrable a fact, or at least of some serious preparation thereunto. In particuler the* English *Company vnderstand, that some of the bloudy Colledge of Iudges, being returned into the* Low Countries, *and living free, and well countenanced there, haue of late, vpon confidence (as it seemes) of the effectuall working of their elusory Artifice, craked and vaunted, that they will iustifie their processe of* Amboyna, *even to the face of his Majestie, (which are their owne*

facing

facing words) although the ſame parties at their firſt arrivall in Holland; *kept themſelues cloſe, and were not knowne where to be found, when the Miniſters of this State ſought after them. Which bold face being put vpon this bad matter, hath ſo farre countenanced the ſame, as that ſome of our owne Nation there, allied to the* Dutch, *haue in private ſtept vp in defence of the ſayd barbarous butchery, and ſeeme at leaſt to thinke the matter aggravated above the true deſert, Wherefore leaſt the poore innocent* Engliſh *that haue already ſuffered ſo many and ſo grievous tortures, and afterwards a reproachfull death, ſhould now againe after death, ſuffer in their good names alſo, which is, or ought to be, dearer then life it ſelfe, leaſt alſo the* Engliſh Eaſt India *Company, that haue likewiſe ſuffered too many indignities, and ſuch damages from the* Dutch, *ſhould ſeeme to haue made a great cry without as juſt a cauſe; They now finde it high time to vindicate their owne reputation, and the fame of their innocent ſervants and Country-men, by accquainting the world with the true ſtate of the buſineſſe, as alſo to defend and maintaine their former true relation from the exceptions taken againſt it, by this following Remonſtrance of the* Dutch; *And becauſe the Acts of the proceſſe of* Amboyna, *are often mentioned, as well in this Remonſtrance, as in the Reply therevnto, the ſame alſo are inſerted betweene both, to cleare the relatiue paſſages on both parts.*

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A REMONSTRANCE of the Bewinthebbers or Directors of the Netherlands *East India* Company,

lately exhibited to the Lords States Generall, in justification of the proceedings of their Officers at *Amboyna*, against the *English* there.

Translated out of French.

High and mighty Lords:

THE Directors of the vnited Company and Societie of the *East Indies*, did in the moneth of *Iuly* last past, present vnto your Honours a Deduction concerning that which was past in the Province of *Amboyna*, and of the execution there made in *March* 1623. with a provisionall answer of the Objections which then were made and knowne against it: But where this Cause by that meanes could not be ended, and for as much as daily there are found and spred abroad great Bruits against that which is mentioned in the Deduction aforesaid; therefore the said *Di-*

rectors in regard of their charge and office, as alſo for the defence of their Servants, ſo farre as reaſon permitteth, and not to be thought deſtitute and naked of good defence, yea that they may not leaue the matter for condemned, as divers haue ſpred abroad, and gladly would make the world beleeue, cannot forbeare to make, after due reverence, this more particular Inſtruction in forme of Remonſtrance vnto yours Honours.

A. In the firſt place then the *Directors* doe yet perſiſt in their ſaid Deduction, becauſe the ſame may ſerue to giue light to the whole cauſe: And conſidering the waighty and infallible Inditia and evidence that preceded this diſcovery of the Treaſon of certaine *Engliſh*, yea the ſame being notorious, as alſo the proceedings which haue legally and according to Law paſſed againſt the Confederates, as appeareth by the Iudiciall Acts (ſigned as well by thoſe which were examined, as by the Councell of *Amboyna* which is a Colledge admitted and ſworne) and againſt which no proofe, much leſſe any vaine and frivolous ſuſpition ſhould bee admitted. They the *Directors* abſolutely beleeue (ſo long as they ſee no more to the contrary) that the ſaid *Engliſh* Conſpirators and other Confederates which were in our ſervice, were well apprehended, and the fact (in our opinions) ſo well proved according to Law, and the vſe & cuſtome in ſuch caſe obſerved, the proceedings haue been legall, & in purſuit therof the puniſhment

B. which they haue ſuſtained was inflicted according to the common Law, with good moderation of the rigour of Iuſtice & with clemency. Notwithſtā-

ding

ding there haue beene many Writings and Deductions, as the *Directors* vntill this time perceiue and discover, sowed and spred against this cause as well in *England* as in these parts: among which (for as much as we know) the first is a summary of Newes out of Letters dated the 19. of *Iune* 1623. writtē by the *English* Factors at *Batavia*, which immediately will be judged by every one who never so little and superficially shall read the same, to be full of passion contrary to the Truth, and without any proofe: For first the proceeding by the Iustice at *Amboyna* vpon the Confederates there, is blamed therein, and by prejudication called an vnjust Murder, wicked and barbarous, the fashion and manner of the racke or torture likewise described, and exaggerated with great vehemency and passion: And also it is not true that therein is said, that the other *Indians* (besides the *English*) confederates in the fact were servants of the *English* Company, whereas it appeareth otherwise, to wit, that the *Indian* confederates were Servants of the *Dutch* Company, as is well knowne to be true; and yet this writing hath taken great place amongst great and small, and hath beene shewed as a patterne or modell wherevpon the other griefes haue beene formed against the said Iustice of *Amboyna*. Vpon which incontinently followed a more large and ample Writing called *The true Relation of the cruell and barbarous torture and execution committed by the Flemmings vpon the English in* Amboyna. C.

In the Introduction whereof proceedeth impertinently a description of *Amboyna*, and of the Garison

and force of the *Dutch* in the ſame place, and this onely to the end, as appeareth, to ſhow therby that there is no appearance that the *Engliſh* ſhould conſult of the taking of the ſaid place as a thing impoſſible; As if, by reaſon of the ſmall vnderſtanding and ſimple foundation which the Conſpirators had to put their deſigne in execution and in effect (omitting all other accuſations) they had not in any kind merited and deſerved any puniſhment: the contrary wherof appeareth to be practiſed daily in the like

D. crimes; And to cite this preſumption vnto the annihilating of a truth ſo notorious and proved, and againſt the proper confeſſions of the executed and other Confederates, againſt the conſcience and teſtimony of ſo many honeſt men and of credit, which haue been imployed in the cauſe, and againſt a Colledge of Iudges publicke and ſworne, this cannot in any manner be admitted, received, nor had in conſideration by ſuch as haue vnderſtanding in theſe af-

E. faires. But to the contrary, and beſides all the reaſons aforegoing, the *Dutch* Company hath made it to appeare by good proofes, that the *Engliſh* to the end to divert and get forth of the Caſtle the forces of the *Dutch*, had in the Countries and Ilands therabouts ſtirred vp, induced, and cauſed to rebell, all the *Ternatanes*, *Ceraniens*, and the *Indian* Nations bordering there, openly and by publicke violence to make ſuch vnaccuſtomed outrages vpon the Subjects of the Caſtle, that the Governor might be conſtrained to goe forth from thence with all his forces for to appeaſe and quiet the ſaid Rebells, and to bring them to their ancient obedience. And there-

vpon

vpon the *English* should haue assayled and invaded the Castle and the Towne(as being destitute by the retyring and departure of the Army)then when the *Dutch* should be most feeble and in their greatest necessitie as well of men as of *Dutch* ships, which should haue beene imployed in this voyage. And concerning the force of the English which were in *Amboyna*, they alone would not haue enterprised the attempt, but would vnto this purpose haue called vnto them all the slaves which they had in great number in their Factories: Neither would they haue begun the same before the arrivall of certaine *English* shippes in *Amboyna*: The people whereof they would also haue set on worke and imployed to the attempt: The retinue also, which daily the complices did vnder-hand procure (as *Gabriell Towerson* Cape Merchant of the *English* had ordered, should haue beene much augmented, the rebell subjects of the Castle should haue weakned the force of the *Dutch*, and augmented the force of the conspirators; And further (which is the principall point)the end and designe of the Conspirators was not to force and constraine the Castle (onely) by violence, open war, or siege,(to which purpose all these imagined fortresses of the Castle,and the power of the *Dutch*, might haue their consideration)but the plot, was to invade the Castle by Treason, and with the ayd and assistance of the *Iaponian* Souldiers which were then in the service of the *Dutch* at *Amboyna* aforesaid: which small number of *Iaponians* were not slightly to be regarded, in respect of the valour & prowesse of that Nation,and their extraordinary resolutiō in

F.

G.

hazarding their liues in any dangerous enterprises; Insomuch as a certaine small number of the *Iaponians*, only of themselues and without any aide or support, haue vndertaken and accomplished the most great attempts and designes in places of the greatest and most puissant government in the *Indies*. As among other things it appeareth by that which passed in the kingdome of *Patany*: where certaine *Iaponians* forced and pillaged the Towne, afterwards made their retreat in good order and with good composition. And in the Kingdome of *Siam* in the Town called *Iodea*, full of thousands of persons, the King whereof himselfe can in a short time bring into the field aboue one hundred thousand men of armes, and heretofore obtained great victories vpon many great Princes his neighbours, who then were and as yet are of great power; in that Towne (I say) which is the capitall Towne of the Kingdome, certaine *Iaponians* surprized first the Castle and Royall Palace, and being entered thereinto by force, afterwards they tooke the King in person prisoner, they kept him in their custody, and being wholly become masters of the said Castle, they made by meanes of threatnings (as to put the King to death, and otherwise) an honourable and advantageous composition: By which the said small number of *Iaponians* went away & departed without any domage out of the Kingdome of *Siam*, with great glory and magnanimity, and very great riches. Which exploits are without comparison much more great and dangerous then the said attempt of *Amboyna*, against an open Town and a Castle empty and naked of forces,

into

into which alſo the *Iaponians* might haue their daily acceſſe with the *Engliſh* who were held and reputed for friends: So that whatſoever is mentioned in the Deduction of the *Engliſh* vpon this preſumptiõ, to draw into a doubt all the actions of the Confederates, is altogether without foundation, in a cauſe ſo notorious and publikely convinced. Of the like force and efficacy is that which is ſet downe before in the ſaid *Engliſh* Deduction, as if the Dutch had no other deſigne by this imputation of Treaſon, but to thruſt forth the *Engliſh* out of *Amboyna*, and to remaine ſole Maſters of the Trade in thoſe quarters: But if ſuch had beene the intention of the Dutch Company, they might eaſier and with more apparance and pretext haue forborne to receiue and admit the *Engliſh* at the beginning in *Amboyna*, in the yeare 1620. then haue thruſt them forth in ſuch a manner: and God forbid that any one ſhould vndertake to perform or effect ſuch a thing by ſuch vnjuſt and maligne proceedings, and with ſuch effuſſion of bloud, onely to thruſt forth the *Engliſh* from *Amboyna*. And concerning the *Dutch* Company here in *Europe*, never any ſuch thing came into their thoughts, nor did they ever giue any Commiſſion for the putting forth of the *Engliſh*, by warrant whereof the Officers of the ſaid place in generall might haue had ground to begin any thing to ſuch an end. And concerning the Officers themſelues, they are by thoſe that know them, eſteemed & reputed to be honeſt and worthy men: who in like manner would no wayes entertaine a thought of ſuch an Action.

H.

I.

And

And to ſay the Truth, why ſhould the Officers with ſuch feigned wrong accuſe & put to death the *Engliſh* and the Confederates being innocent: ſeeing that (as aforeſaid) they had no Commiſſion, and if they had any given them (which cannot be well imagined) yet the Governor and Counſell of *Amboyna* are ſuch people as would not haue yeelded or given obedience thereunto. And the ſame Governour nor other Iudges which are fourteene in number, could not haue drawne any profit or advantage by their ſo doing. For admit it were ſo that the *Engliſh* came in this regard for to leaue *Amboyna*, this could no wayes advantage them in their particular; but to the contrary, returning unto *Europe*, they themſelues ſhould be (beſides the burthen and remorſe of their owne Conſciences) charged and aggravated with great blame and infamy, hatred and malice, and put in great danger of their perſons; So that, of ſuch a thing they could not expect otherwiſe then detriment, diſadvantage and diſgrace, yea puniſhment and chaſtiſement upon themſelues. Now if this be not ſo, then may not this preſumption of the *Engliſh* be true, nor in any wiſe admitted and received, who maintaine and inhumanely ſay, that this moleſtation and deſtruction was offered and done to the *Engliſh*, to the end to deliver and free *Amboyna* of them, and to retaine it onely by the *Dutch*. For the *Dutch* Company doe declare the amity of the *Engliſh* Company to be unto them of chiefe and ſpeciall importance, and they deſire for to enjoy the ſame with all confidence; And furthermore wee could produce and alleadge many

many reasons why we yet desire that the treatie being religiously and piously observed from the one part to the other, we could willingly and gladly be content to giue way to the rate and portion in Trade permitted to the *English* Company by the Treaty of the yeare 1619. without by exclusion of the *English* (the Treaty being by them observed) to acknowledge or thinke of any profit or advantage in generall or in particular.

We vndertake further for our officers of *Amboyna*, (as also it is true) that the beginning and entrance of this proceeding beganne vpon vehement and well grounded suspitions against the first *Iaponian* in our service, who walking at vndue houres vpon the Bulwarkes of the Castle, and inquiring very curiously of the force and constitution of the Garison and setting of the watch, was apprehended, and presently the clew of this great and execrable conspiracy was opened and discovered, as the *English* Deduction it selfe confesseth. K.

And if the *Dutch* had designed and vndertaken (as most calumniously it is suspected and reported) to thrust the *English* out of *Amboyna*, by the vnjust report and accusation of their servants there, without any appearance of any true conspiracy: why did this *Iaponian* come vpon the walls, and so curiously enquire, and also being apprehended and examined so pertinently, speake of the conspiracie? If this *Iaponian* had bin a person suborned for to charg and accuse the *English*, the *Dutch* would not haue executed him; which yet legally followed, whereby it appeareth that his declaration and testimony was

true, as well in accusing the other *Iaponians* his fellowes which were in our service, as in the charge of the other *English*, and of himselfe: why also were the other *Iaponians* indicted and executed, if the *Dutch* sought it but onely vpon the *English*, as is without colour pretended? for the *Iaponians* haue ever been in good esteeme with vs, and haue alwaies beene much trusted, and not having any occassion of malice, or rancor, or feare of them, or against them; where now to the contrary by this transgression it behoveth our nation to be alwaies in mistrust of the *Iaponians*, and not so confidently to vse or be served of them as before. And it ought not to seem strange that during this examination of these *Iaponians* (which as aforesaid, was begunne and ended before any thing was done to the *English*) that the *English*
L. for the space of three or foure dayes (although herein they spare the truth) were so forward and so bold as to goe in and out, to and from the Castle: For they thought that it would tend and serue vnto their conservatiō, to the end they might giue the lesse suspition: for they had fled away, & hidden or concealed themselues, in such case they had bin publikely discovered. And if they had thought or would haue attempted to flye, it was impossible for them so to doe, for the Governor and Councell had given order all about for the assurance of the place, and of all persons which frequented and had any intercourse of Merchandizes in *Amboyna*, of which the *English* complices could not be ignorant; so that they were constrained to put on a good face, cheere, and countenance, the better to shunne the perill and danger.

But

But it further appeareth that that which the *English* maintaine is abusiue and erroneous; that they had continued three or foure dayes in going to and from the Castle after the said imprisonment, and during the examination of the *Iaponians*: For they beganne to examine the *Iaponians* the 24. of February, & the 25. the *English* were arrested, so that there was but one day between them both, and therefore that which is mentioned in the *English* Deduction is not true. Also for the confession of the first *Iaponian*, as likewise of all the rest of the *Iaponians* vnto the number of twelue, they do not onely accuse the *English*, but themselues also; so that there cannot be any suspition or doubt of false accusation, seeing that they themselues could not haue any advantage in the preservation of their owne persons; as otherwise there can be no suspition of calumny: which in such a case could not be, nor happen in any fashion or manner. M.

That which is contained in the *English* Deduction, to wit, that the *English* had never kept any conversation with the *Iaponians*, appeareth to the contrary by the Acts of the Processe and the confessions of all and particularly of *Towerson*, made without Torture or Fetters, long after his examination. So that from these contrarieties, and dissimulations are discovered, many other signes & tokens for to beleeue that the *English* Deduction doth wander and stray very much from the truth, and that all which may be construed to the contrary is true, in consequence of that which the *Dutch* Company of the *East Indies* doe sustaine in the just defence of their Officers and Ministers. N.

O. But that whereby the ſaid Deduction is enlarged and amplified, is to make mention and diſcover many particularities, which in time hereafter ſhalbe refuted and proved to be matter meerely fained in the moſt part of the moſt important and ſubſtantiall points: as alſo in that which they ſpeake of the racke and torture given to the *Engliſh*, which is deſcribed in particulars contrary to the truth, therby to moue the Reader to pitty. But when they haue ſaid all, it is but a bare and naked diſcourſe without proofe, that the *Engliſh* haue beene tortured and racked: for to giue the torture when the caſe ſo requireth, is no fault of the Iudge, but it is a thing cuſtomable throughout *Europe*, and ſo in the *Low-countries*; And if ſuch torture hath beene given to ſome of the *Engliſh*, it was ſurely done vpon good and pregnant evidence, and weighty proofes, and confeſſions of others, whereof ſome may haue beene brought to a more rigorous examination, according to the exigence of the caſe, without doing or executing any injuſtice.

P. If alſo the Iudges of the *Dutch* would haue wrongfully preſſed and conſtrained the *Engliſh* to confeſſion by torture, wherefore did they not preſſe and conſtraine them all to confeſſion: which nevertheleſſe appeareth by the Deduction of the *Engliſh*, not to haue beene done, and that many were let paſſe without torture; yea many of them which the *Engliſh* Deduction abuſiuely affirmeth to haue beene tortured: it being not reaſonable to proceed againſt them as againſt others, which were charged with more great and vehement ſuſpitions and proofes.

And

And if they proceeded herein with such excesse, how commeth it then that the Iudges pardoned and discharged some (as faulty as the rest) but onely to giue testimony of their proceedings, and that the iustice thereof might fully appeare to all whomsoever? which otherwise they were not bound to doe nor would haue done in all likelihood. Q.

But to winne the Reader by compassion, the manner of the torture is there very finely and prolixely set downe: but who knoweth not that the manner and fashion of the extraordinary question is in it self rough and harsh, and specially must seeme so to the *English* in *England* (where there is no such kind of torture vsed, vnlesse it be in case of high Treason) how moderate and gentle soever it be, as the paine of the torture of the water, which is much more civil, & lesse dangerous then other tortures of stretching or pressing, which is in divers manners vsed in *Europe*: for such torture and paine of water doth but cause and produce an oppression and anxiety of breath, and respiration, and not the swelling of the body of the Patients (as is abusiuely mentioned in the *English* Deduction) and is without fraction, bruising, or mutilation of the members, which others are subject vnto: So that all which is comprised and contained in the same description, is onely set down for the embellishing and adorning of the said Writing, to the end onely to moue the Reader to compassion, to make him insensibly to draw in and swallow all the other errours and vntruths vnder these close conveighances, and giue them credit to the advantage of the drift of the said Deduction: R.

But he which to the contrary will ſound and ſearch out the truth, and whether that which is therein declared and related bee proved, and ought to be admitted and received or not, let him bee pleaſed further to obſerue, as followeth.

That all which is ſaid therein is without proofe, and if that any proofe be found therein, it is of very few perſons, yea ſuch as in a cauſe that concerneth themſelues, and wherein they were once judicially convinced, may not bee admitted for witneſſes againſt the Iudge, and the proceedings paſt againſt themſelues, nor againſt the legall confeſſion which they once and oftener made and confirmed with their owne ſubſcription, which now by other depoſitions or particular declarations, cannot be made vaine and eluſory againſt the teſtimony and certificate of foureteene Iudges, who were preſent in and at all paſſages, whoſe reputation and wiſedome is ſo well known, that ſuch wicked, vnorderly and vnjuſt proceedings as the *Engliſh* pretend, may not be in any ſort or manner charged or imputed vpon them.

S. Laſtly, concerning certaine Declarations and Writings of the condemned *Engliſh* before their death, wherby they haue proteſted their innocency, and that they were judged wrongfully, whereupon by preſumption is inferred that it muſt be true, becauſe it is not to be beleeved that any one was ſo wicked and impious as to dare to faine and diſſemble at the houre of his death.

This Argument maketh little in the cauſe; for firſt it ought to appear that there are indeed ſuch Declarations and Writings of the *Engliſh*: But the truth

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can be teſtified by them which were preſent, and about them at all times, that there is no ſuch thing; much leſſe that which is ſaid concerning certaine pretended miracles which had happened in witneſſe of the innocency of the executed, ſo that it may well ſeeme that they had moved heaven and earth to hide and conceale this deteſtable deed: but howſoever it be, who would preſume that honeſt men of reputation and wiſdome, known & publicke, would haue ſhown themſelues ſo impious and vnhumane, as wrongfully and innocently to accuſe the perſons executed: and much leſſe it cannot bee preſumed vnto the charge of a Colledge eſtabliſhed and ſworne.

And although that which is aforeſaid appeare and be known firſt by the truth of the thing, as it is caried by the Deduction aforegoing, preſented in *Iuly* paſt vnto your Honours; and that ſecondly it is credible that by this writing here were broke and decided all objections and difficulties inferred by the *Engliſh*, as alſo ſome acts alleadged, which in regard of the *Engliſh* might be produced & alledged againſt that which is aforeſaid, and againſt the Legality of the proceedings in *Amboyna*, in ſuch manner that more cannot be required in juſtification of the behaviors of the *Dutch* Officers: So it is that the *Directors* notwithſtanding find it neceſſary (although ſuperfluous) to repeat and make mention here, of many particularities, which much more fully, & all at a blow, do ſhew that the reports ſpred and ſworn, with ſuch vehemency by the *Engliſh* againſt the truth, do contrary the one the other, ſo that nothing more can be T.

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had nor rest of suspition, whereby the proceedings and executions at *Amboyna* may be accused, much lesse condemned,& in consequence likewise, which the great haste and assiduall precipitation vsed herein, hath been wholly done in poste, for to learne and shew the world the truth of the discovery in the businesse ; as hereafter shall appeare more clearely and evident.

In the first place then, so it is, that the Companie after the first Deduction of *Iuly*, haue further vnderstood by the last Ships out of *Batavia*, arrived here in September, and that by Certificate or Attestatiō deposed by M. *Fredericke de Houtman*, chiefe Councellor of the *Indies*, and ancient Governour of the Isles of *Muloques*; that it was firmly and vndoubtedly beleeved in *Amboyna*, throughout & of every one, yea by himselfe as he yet doth beleeve, that the *English* of the said place, and the *Iaponians*, had truly and really conspired to invade the Castle of *Amboyna* at their best opportunity ; so that none ought in any wise to doubt thereof.

Secondly, for strong proofe of that which is aforesaid, the said Governor *de Houtman*, comming from the *Moloques* to *Hitto* in *Amboyna* in the moneth of April, *anno* 1623. a certaine *Englishman* called *George Sharock*, Assistant, (which before had beene also prisoner, and examined vpon the said conspiracie, and by favour released & pardoned by the Governour and Councell of *Amboyna*, notwithstanding that the said *Sharock* was a good while privy to the said Conspiracy, & had promised his assistance) kneeling down vpon his knees and prostrating him-

ſelfe before the feet of the ſaid Governour *de Houtman*,(who looked for no ſuch matter) declared with great zeale and good affection, that hee was and ſhould bee all his life time bound and obliged vnto the *Dutch* Company, becauſe (as hee then againe confeſſed) that favour had beene done to him, and hee was left vnpuniſhed for the fault and offence which he had committed and perpetrated; and this was ſpoken by the ſaid *George Sharock*, to the ſaid *de Houtman*, about the 20. of April 1623. when he was already abſolved, releaſed, freed, and out of all feare to be any more moleſted, or queſtioned for the ſaid fact and offence committed as aforeſaid.

Thirdly, the ſaid Governour *de Houtman* being at *Batavia*, and being preſent when *Iohn Beomont English* Merchant, (who alſo was a confederate in the ſaid conſpiracy at *Amboyna*, and obtained his pardon) being ſicke, was brought before the Governor generall; and the ſaid *Beomont* being come in the preſence of the ſaid Governor generall, and of the ſaid M. *Houtman*, confeſſed his fault before made and committed, and implored, and moſt humbly deſired mercy and pardon of the ſaid Generall, which having obtained, he humbly thanked them.

In the fourth place, That many people at *Batavia*, yea he the *Deponent* himſelfe had by good information and knowledge, certainly vnderſtood, that the ſaid *Iohn Beomont* being afterwards come before the *English* Preſident and *English* Merchants reſident at *Batavia*, hee the ſaid *Beomont* recited and confeſſed the whole buſineſſe and conſpiracy: But when this pleaſed not the ſaid *English*, the Preſident of the

English aforesaid, for to obscure the cause, and to shunne the dishonour of the Treason, seeing the free confession of *Beomont* which much astonished them, he caused him for this cause to keep close and not to speake to any body, because that the thing by the voluntary confession of the said *Beomont* against the intent of the *English* principalls, should not further be discovered and confirmed.

Fiftly, concerning the persons which were imployed as Iudges in the cause of *Amboyna* in the matter of the condemned, and specially the Governour *Van Speult* (because hee is best knowne) they are such, that there cannot be any the least suspition or doubt of them, that they had wrongfully or without sufficient ground caused the *English* to be accused, or ill handled, or much lesse to bee put to death, if they had not beene found really in fault, worthily to haue deserved the punishment: the Governour *Van Speult* being held for an honest man, of credit, and fearing God, by all those that haue conversed with him: and by consequence, there may not bee admitted such a contrary suspition of his impious and maligne proceedings.

In the fift place, concerning the Torture of Water, which the *Dutch* haue alwayes vsed in the *Indies*, as the most assured and civill: which is not a torture so rough and dangerous as the tortures which are ordinarily vsed in this Country, and throughout *Europe*, which are farre more severe and dangerous then that of Water; whereby the health of the person cannot any way be offended, nor the membrs lamed or bruised.

All

All which things aforesaid, in representation and maintenance of the truth in this case, and which further might be in conformity of what is aforesaid, represented by the comming and arriving of many other persons out of the *Indies*, who also haue knowledge of that which passed at *Amboyna*: May it please your Honors to take into consideration, and to consider whether there bee not sufficient matter and cause given to the *English East Indian* Company, for to leaue and remit the fault vnto them, who were the authors and practisers of this abominable conspiracy, & of their owne misfortune, which they thus drew vpon themselues, and not to defend them, and aggravate against the Iudges of the *Dutch*: to which end the *Directors* in defence and maintenance of their Officers, and vnblameable Ministers in the *East Indies* aforesaid, cannot omit to beseech your Honors, that the cause may not bee precipitated, but that covenient time might bee given and granted for a more exact research, (if need bee) of the truth, yea in all to grant them such protection, as all good Subjects and Patriots of the Vnited Provinces are to attend from your Honors in equity and justice. For how can this businesse be so inverted, that in stead of the dishonour and blame which ought to dwel vpon the Confederates, on the contrary now, they will blot and smother the truth of the thing, and to accuse and charg the *Dutch* Officers, as if they had had no honesty or conscience: which cannot bee presumed of substantiall people, of good renowne, vpon any either voluntarie (though not true) or suborned and false deposition, of such as may not be admitted

to testifie in their owne cause against the judiciall Acts of a Colledge of Iudges, sworne, and in so great a number, which haue of a long time beene so imployed; when it appeareth not otherwise by any other legall proofes.

The intention of the *Directors* never was, nor yet is to maintaine any injustice, outrage, or imposture, if in these proceedings there were any vsed: but as long as it appeareth not clearely (as it ought in this case, against a Colledge, and against a cause judged) nothing else, vnder reverence, can be done in the businesse, but to grant time for to make more exact and serious search (if need be,) and that by the authority and intervention of your Honours (as it shall appertaine) all mis-vnderstanding, contrary Deductions, and ill expositions, griefes, and designes, may cease and bee surpressed, vntill such time as the contrary may (if need bee) appeare. The said Defences are such (in our opinion) as vnder reverence this ought to be done. And although it were so, that the cause of the *English* against the Iudges of *Amboyna* seemed wholly to be cleare and proved, (which hitherto hath proved to the contrary) neverthelesse the proceedings of the said Iudges may not in any wise be condemned (as touching the substance thereof) without hearing the Iudges themselues, whom the cause properly toucheth and concerneth, and not the *Directors*; who onely mediate, for as much as according to the information and knowledge which they haue of the cause, it seemeth to them to be in effect just and faire, and therefore the humble remonstrance or representation and prayer of the Administrators

ſtrators, or *Directors*, haue ever beene, that it would pleaſe your Honours to giue and grant convenient time for the inquiry, information, and reſearch of the buſineſſe, vntill ſuch time as the ſhips of *Batavia* ſhall be arrived here; to the end that the matter may more plainly and truely be diſcovered and knowne; and without doubt there will come, and be tranſported therein from thence, ſome that will neutrally and in ſuch ſort maintaine vnto yours Honours, the particular informations of the proceedings paſſed in *Amboyna*, that they may be wholly beleeved and received: as at this preſent there is come, and fallen out by the comming and returne of M. *Fredericke de Houtman*, chief Councellor of the *Indies*, and ancient Governour of the Iſles of *Molucques*, who hath depoſed and by oath teſtified the points in manner as they are recited and related in order as aboue, which bringeth not a little light in this cauſe, but may wholy tend and turne to the overthrow of all contrary expoſitions and calumnies, which heretofore haue beene vſed and ſet forth, with ſuch differences and vehemencie, wherby we hope that your Honors will in all points, and that with equity, right, and reaſon, giue and cauſe to be given ſuch content, that all diſcontent (at leaſt by proviſion) may ceaſe, vntill ſuch time as the whole truth may more and abundantly come to light, by advice from the *Indies*, to the full ſatisfaction of thoſe whom it toucheth or concerneth. For may it pleaſe your Honors to know and vnderſtand, that the beſt and moſt pertinent and true knowledg of the buſineſſe, muſt come from the Province of *Amboyna* to *Batavia*, and from thence

hither. Notwithstanding, so it is, that since the departure of the Pinace called the *Hare* from *Batavia*, which was in the beginning of *January*, 1624. (by which the first notice of the execution was brought) vntill the departure of the last ships which also came from *Batrvia*, there is not, nor cannot haue come any newes from *Amboyna* to *Batavia*, concerning this businesse, because the winde called the Westerne Moussons blow continually from November vntill Aprill. And for to come from *Amboyna* to *Batavia*, an Easterne Mousson is necessary; and that beginneth first in May: so that without that, it is a thing impossible to send or get any advice or ships from *Amboyna* to *Batavia*.

We hope also that your Lordships will finde this reasonable, and that due and reasonable time required shall be granted and permitted in justice, for the more ample search and information of the cause, (if need be) and we cannot conjecture, (being a thing incredible) that any one will condeme any cause or persons, without first hearing the justification of the parties, which alwaies hath beene held and observed inviolably of all nations, which would judge according to right and equity. Therefore wee hope that it will be thus granted; yea it is not reasonable that any reparation should bee required, before the due defences and informations of the businesse bee made and taken, and the same ought to be made and taken by and from the persons whom the cause concerneth, appertaineth, and is knowne, and who also pertinently know how to refute the objections and circumstances alleadged, and heretofore vrged to the

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contrary: which vnto vs is impoſſible to doe, not having been preſent: but only for the defence of our Officers, for ſo much as is juſt and reaſonable, wee can alleadge that which they haue written vnto vs from the *Indies*, and what elſe we haue certainly perceived and vnderſtood.

Alſo we cannot in the meane time conceale from your Honours, that the fact of this conſpiracy is ſo notorious in the *Indies*, and that thence may bee drawne ſo ſtrong and vigorous proofes, that the Truth ſhall fully and ſufficiently appeare to the full diſcharge of the innocents, and the confuſion of thoſe which will defend and maintaine a bad cauſe; And this may bee proved there beſides the points aboue alleadged. W.

Firſt, that all the *Iaponians*, complices in the conſpiracy haue ſigned each with their own hands their confeſſions, and afterwards jointly and all altogeher haue perſiſted therein after the end of the examination, without torture or fetters, at many ſittings and full aſſemblies of the Councell at *Amboyna*, without revoking any thing, or deſiring to diminiſh or augment any thing from or to their ſaid confeſſions.

In the ſecond place, That the *Engliſh* Complices at ſundry times of their own accord, without paine, irons, tortures, or menaces, ratified the ſame, and reſpectiuely ſigned their confeſſions: vpon which confeſſions, they were afterwards againe examined three or foure times, and re-examined in a full Councell and Aſſembly; and after their examination haue perſiſted therein, without revoking or changing any thing.

Thirdly

Thirdly, that the Governour of *Amboyna* (after that all the complices had respectiuely foure or fiue times ratified their confessions, and persisted therein a little before the execution, seriously remonstrated, exhorted, represented, and demanded, of the said complices (as before had done vnto them in particular) That in case any one of them had by apprehension of justice, feare of menaces, or terrour of paine, said, confessed, and signed any thing, by which he was surprised and made guilty, and whereby others might come and fall into danger or hazard, that hee should speake and manifest it openly, that he might discharge the party thereof. For the Governour protested that he was not desirous of the destruction and death of any that was not guilty. Vpon which proposition every one of them shrunke vp their shoulders and said, that what he had confessed and signed particularly was true, and therefore he persisted therein.

In the fourth place, One of the complices called *William Webber*, in his last examination, confessed that he had received a Letter from *Iohn Clarke*, by which hee was advertised that something of great waight and consequence was handled amongst the *English*; but he could not vnderstand what it might be: the which letter containing as aforesaid, the said *Clarke* confessed also in the abscence of *Webber*, that he had written it.

Fiftly, that *Edward Collins* being examined and making his confession without any torment or torture, (as appeareth by the Acts) offered to confesse all of his owne freewill: yea hee declared the same before

before *Gabriell Towerson* and all the other *English*, and that he did not thinke that the ſaid *Towerſon* and all the reſt which were there faulty would dare to deny it, but would preſently confeſſe it, as alſo the ſaid *Towerſon* being brought to *Collins*, (and the ſaid *Collins* falling vpon his knees and requiring mercie and pardon) he ſaid, and told it him to his face, admoniſhing the ſaid *Towerſon* that he would preſently declare and confeſſe all as he had done, ſaying, I muſt ſpeake and confeſſe the truth, and I meane not to ſuffer or endure any paine for the loue of you.

In the ſixt place, That *Emanuell Tompſon* two dayes after the examination finiſhed and ended, and when he was free and at liberty, being inquired by the Commiſſioners which had aſſiſted in the ſame examination, wherefore he had ſo long perſiſted in his denials, and endured the ſevere examination, ſaid the reaſon was becauſe Captaine *Gabriell Towerſon* had oftentimes reprehended his drunkenneſſe, ſaying, that hee ſhould take good heed that thereby the matter ſhould not be diſcovered; For which cauſe the ſaid *Tompſon* did by a great oath ſweare to himſelfe, that howſoever it went, hee would not bee the third nor the fourth by whom the matter ſhould be knowne, whatſoever paine (in his opinion) he could haue beene put vnto.

Seventhly, the ſaid *Emanuell Tompſon*, certaine daies after his examination being viſited by certaine Commiſſioners, ſaid vnto them, that hee was very glad that God had cauſed the buſines to be brought to light, becauſe much innocent bloud would haue beene ſpilt, and although he confeſſed that hee

had deserved once, yea twice to dye, he asked mercy seeing that he was a man of about fiftie yeares, &c. And so after so much favour was given to the said *Tompson*, for to draw a lot with *Coulson* and *Collins* which of them three should be released and freed.

In the eight place, that two or three dayes before the execution, Captaine *Towerson* being in the Hall with other the convict *English*, said in the presence of the Governour and all the Councell, and to the rest of the *English* in generall by reproach, that their ill and disordinate liues, their whoredome, and drunkennesse, was the cause, that it pleased God that they should not keepe secret the intended enterprise; and that by reason thereof they were now fallen and brought to such misery.

Ninthly, that *Gabriell Towerson* author of this conspiracy, in his last extremitie prayed the rest of his complices to pardon him, because that by him *Towerson*, they were instigated and brought vnto the said enterprise, and were reduced to that case, and that the businesse was come to be discovered by the all-seeing God, and that he must of necessity dye, & therefore having brought them into this danger and ill chance, he prayed them to pardon him, as they also did.

In the tenth place, The said *Towerson* a little before his death writ a letter to *Samuell Coulson*, which letter is yet in the hands of the Governor of *Amboyna Harman Van Speult*, by which, the said *Towerson* said and alleadged vnto the said *Coulson*, that he, the said *Coulson*, was the first and principall cause which had made the agreement and condescending vnto the act of

of invading and making of themſelues maſters of the Caſtle, but notwithſtanding at the preſent he pardoned him.

Eleventhly, that the ſhip called the *Vnicorne*, ſayling from *Amboyna* to *Batavia*, the two *Engliſh* Merchants *Edward Collins* and *Iohn Beomont*, which were pardoned, were tranſported therein, vnto the end to impetrate and obtaine their full pardon in *Batavia* aforeſaid, and they two *Engliſh* Merchants being requeſted by the officers of the ſhip to come ſit down and eate at the Table of the Commiſſioners, during the ſaid voyage; the ſaid *Collins* ſaid, excuſing of himſelfe, that they were not worthy to ſit by the ſaid Commiſſioners, becauſe that the ſaid *Engliſh* had had ſuch an ill purpoſe and deſign againſt the *Dutch*, and yet they were by them in that faſhion entertained, and were exempted of the puniſhment: and therefore they could very well eate apart: which excuſe notwithſtanding was not received nor accepted by the Commiſſioners of the *Dutch*.

In the twelfth place, are adjoyned and annexed the report and depoſitions of the ſaid Governour *de Houtman* concerning the confeſſions of the ſaid two *Engliſh* Merchants made before the Governor himſelfe, and afterwards before the Preſident and principall *Engliſh*, and that which further may be declared at *Batavia*, whereof divers perſons there haue notice. X.

In the thirteenth place, concerning the torture in the proceedings vſed at *Amboyna*, they can giue certaine proofe of the truth it ſelfe, that many perſons mentioned in the *Engliſh* Writing, to haue bin

tortured with water and fire, haue not one beene once touched.

In the fourteenth place, concerning the particularities and petty points of the ſaid Writing in *English*, touching the examination of certaine perſons therein mentioned, for the diſcharge and innocency of the *Engliſh*, the ſame ſhall bee proved never to haue beene done nor heard, by depoſitions of thoſe which haue beene preſent at all, and by perſons before whom ſuch things muſt needs haue beene ſpoken and declared.

In the fifteenth place, it ſhall alſo bee found that the pretended miracles were deviſed onely for the diſcharge of the *Engliſh*, and in their favour.

Y These ſaid points, and many others which are yet further well knowne to the *Directors*, may be clearly and by good proofe ſhowne in time and place, if due and convenient time be given and granted vnto the cauſe and re-ſearch thereof: which in a matter ſo important, & of ſuch waight, comming alſo from ſo remote parts, cannot (vnder reverence) be denied to any: So that your Honours may pleaſe to deſire the ſame of his Majeſty of *Great Britaine*, without which the *Directors* can very ill propoſe any other meanes, which would not be mingled either with injuſtice, or the great prejudice and diſadvantage of the *Dutch* Company.

We alſo ſurely hope that his ſaid Majeſty, according to his great wiſedome and juſtice, cannot refuſe or deny the ſaid reſpite for the examination of the buſineſſe more exactly and particularly; which wee

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beſeech your Honours in all reverence to interpoſe and mediate,and by all meanes to effect and obtaine; that (as reaſon requireth) neither the Company in generall, nor the Maſters in particular, may not during this interim bee any way grieved or prejudiced in their juſt defences. Which doing, &c.

FINIS.